Canadian Heritage Rivers System

Management Plan for the Hayes River in Manitoba

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- **Top:**
  Public Archives of Canada, "The Cree hunter and his family." By Peter Rindisbacher, 1821.
- **Bottom:**
  Hudson's Bay Company Archives, "Hudson's Bay Company York Boats at Norway House." By Walter J. Phillips, 1928.

The historic Hayes River fur trade route from York Factory to Norway House, comprised of the Hayes, Echimamish and Nelson Rivers, is an outstanding treasure for Manitoba and for Canada. The Aboriginal, fur trade and more recent history, the unspoiled nature, and the recreational potential of this route easily make it worthy of designation as a Canadian Heritage River.

This management plan for the Hayes River in Manitoba is the designation document submitted to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board to fulfil the requirements for designation as a Canadian Heritage River. Preparation of this plan has involved the combined efforts of staff of Manitoba Conservation, staff and Councils of Norway House, Bunibonibee, Shamattawa and York Factory First Nations, and the many Manitobans who participated in the consultation process. Their interest and participation is the testimony and commitment that will ensure the Hayes is forever cared for in a way that befits its designation as a Canadian Heritage River.

Stan Struthers
Minister of Conservation

July 8, 2005

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is a cooperative program of the federal, provincial and territorial governments, established in 1984, to give national recognition to the important rivers of Canada, to conserve the best examples of Canada's river heritage and to encourage the public to learn about and appreciate Canada's rivers.

The Hayes River historic fur trade route in Manitoba extends 600 kilometres from York Factory on Hudson Bay to Norway House near Lake Winnipeg. It consists of the Hayes River, the Echimamish River and that portion of the Nelson River from Norway House to the mouth of the Echimamish. (In this plan, Hayes River normally refers to the entire route.) This route is an outstanding example of river heritage in Canada. It was the main travel artery for the Hudson Bay Company's fur trade industry for almost 250 years. These rivers flow through what are still some of the most pristine natural areas of Manitoba featuring the flora and fauna of the boreal forest and the Hudson Bay coast. The route also presents a unique opportunity for wilderness river travel and sport fishing in an area rich in fur trade history.

The process to include the Hayes in the CHRS began in 1987 with the preparation of a background study. The route was nominated to the CHRS in 2000 and work on this management plan began in 2001. Preparation of this plan was the responsibility of Manitoba Conservation, with the assistance of a First Nations Advisory Committee having representation from Norway House, Bunibonibee, Shamattawa and York Factory First Nations. An extensive public participation process was an integral part of preparing this plan.

This plan has as its foundation the effective use and application of existing legislation, regulations and policies concerning natural and cultural resource management and environmental assessment, combined with a broad awareness and support for the heritage and recreational values of the river. These will be the principle tools or measures to conserve the CHRS values of the Hayes River. Existing Aboriginal and treaty rights are fully recognized in this plan and in CHRS designation. Landowner rights, leasehold rights, mineral dispositions, rights-of-way for roads and utilities and natural resource allocations under licences and permits will also be fully respected.

The goal of the Management Plan for the Hayes River is to complement and apply existing processes for cooperation and integrated resource management that will recognize, promote and sustain the natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values for which the Hayes River was nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. The plan presents management intents and actions for:

1. Water flow and water quality;
2. Public understanding, awareness and interpretation;
3. Integrity of natural heritage features and processes;
4. Integrity of cultural heritage features;
5. Public enjoyment and recreational use.

The corridor, to which this plan applies, extends from the Archway warehouse at Norway House to York Factory on Hudson Bay. It has a width of 200 metres from the ordinary high water mark along both shorelines of the Hayes River, the Echimamish River, and the portion of the Nelson River from the mouth of the Echimamish to Norway House, including the lakes through which the rivers flow.

The management goal, intents and actions set out in this plan require the cooperation and participation of federal and provincial management agencies, First Nations, the private sector and public stakeholders. With all parties embracing the common goals for the river and incorporating those goals into their activities and decisions, this plan can be implemented and the Hayes will be effectively managed as a Canadian Heritage River. The annual and 10-year monitoring required by the CHRS will measure the effectiveness of this plan and will perpetuate citizen involvement in the Hayes.

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ᐊᓂᒪ Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) ᑲ ᐃᒋᑲᑌᐟ ᒪᒪ"ᐅᑲᒧᐟ ᐅᑭᐟ ᓂᐢᑐ ᑭᐟᒋ ᐅᑭᒪᐃ· ᐊ·ᓇᓯᐁ·ᐃ·ᓂᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᒪᐢ ᐃᐢᐱᐟᐣ 1984 ᑲᑭ ᐊ·ᓇᐢᒋᑲᑌᐟ ᑕ ᑭᐢᕿᓂᒋᑲᑌᑭ ᐅᑭ ᓯᐱᓴ ᐅ· Canada ᑕ ᓇᑲᒋᒋᑲᑌᑭ ᐅᑯ ᑕ ᑭᐢᑭᓇᑕᓀᒋᐟ ᐃᓂᓂ ᐊ·ᐟ ᑲᐃ·ᐢᐟ ᑕ ᓇᑲᒋᑕᐟ ᐅᑭ ᓯᐱᓴ ᐅᑕ Canada.

Anima Hayes River ᐃᑌ ᑲᑭ ᐃᓯ ᐱᒪᐊ·ᑕᓯᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᒣᐊ·- ᐁ ᐊ·ᓂ"ᐃᑲᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᑕ Manitoba ᓇᵌᑕ· ᓂᑯᑕ·ᓯ ᐅᑕ ᑐᐅᑕᓄ· ᑎᐸᐢᑲᓇ ᑭ ᒪᐅᑭᓯᐊ·ᐟ ᐊᑌ ᐅᒋ York Factory ᓱᑌ Hudson Bay ᓱᑌ ᐃᐢᑯ Norway House ᓴᑲ"ᐃᑲᓂᐟ Lake Winnipeg ᐊᓀᐟ ᐅᒪ ᐃᑌᕿ ᐅᒪ ᑲ ᐱᐅᑎᑭ ᐅᑭ Hayes River, ᐊᓂᒪ ᐁᒋᒪᐅᑭ River ᐁᑯ ᐅᓇ ᐊᓂᒪ Nelson River ᐊᵌᑌ ᐅᒋ Norway House ᐃᓂᑯᐟ ᓱᑌ ᓴᑭᑕ· ᐅᒪ ᐁᒋᒪᐅᑭ" (ᐁᑲ·ᓂ ᐱᑯ Hayes River ᑕ ᐃᓯ ᐃ·"-ᑲᑌ· ᐅᒪ ᐃᓂᑯᐟ ᐃᑌ ᐅᓯᐁ· ᑲᑭ ᐁ ᐱᒪᑲᓯᓇᐅᑭ) ᐁᑯᒪ ᑲᑭ ᐃᓯ ᐱᒪᐊ·ᑕᓯᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᓇᐢᐱᓵ ᑭᐢᑌᓂᑕᑯᵌ ᓯᐱ⁺ ᐃᐅᑯᐟ ᑲᑭ ᐁ ᐃᑲᑕᑕᐟ ᐅᑕ Canada ᐅ-ᵥ ᐁᑯᒪ ᐅᑭ- ᒣᐢᑲᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᑭ Hudson Bay Company's ᒣᑲ·- ᐁ ᐊᑕᐁ·-ᐟ ᐊᑲᓵ ᑲᓇᑫ ᐃ·ᓇ ᓇᵌᑕ· ᓂᓯ ᐅᑕ ᑐᐅᑕᓄ ᓂᓵᓄ ᐅᑕᓄ· ᐊᐢᑭᓵᵥ ᐁᑲ·ᓂᐟ ᐅᑭ ᓯᐱᓴ ᐁᑯᑌ ᐅᒪ ᓄᶜᐅᐟ Manitoba ᓇᓇᑐᐟ ᑭᐢᑎᑲᓇ ᐁᑯ ᓇᓇᑐᐟ ᐊ·ᐱᑲ·ᓂᓵ ᐅᒪ ᐃᑌ ᒪᔆᑐ ᒎ-ᒎᐟ ᐊᵌᑌ ᐃᐢᑯ Hudson Bay ᑭ"- ᓴᑲ"ᐃᑲᓂᐟ ᑲ ᐃᐢᑲᑌᐟᵥ ᐁᑯ ᐅᓇ ᐅᒪ ᐃᓯ ᐱᒪᑲᐅᑭᓯᐃ·ᐣ ᐃᓯᓇᑯᐣ ᐃᑌ ᐊᐃ·ᓵᐟ ᑕ ᐃᓯ ᐸᐸᐅᑭᑲ′ ᐁᑯ ᑕ ᐸᐸᑲ·ᐢᑫ·ᐱ-ᑫ′ ᐃᓂᑯᐟ ᑲᑭ ᐁ ᐃᑲᑲᐅᑲᐟ ᐃᑌ ᑕ ᐅ- ᐱᒪ-"ᐅᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟᵥ

ᐅᒪ ᑲᑭ ᐁ ᒪ- ᐃᓯ-ᑲᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᒪ ᑕ ᐊ·ᓇᐢᑕᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐊ·ᓇᓯᐁ·ᐃ·ᐣ ᐊᓂᒪ Hayes River ᑕ ᐃᑌᓂᑕᑯᐟ CHRS ᑭ ᒪ-ᑕᓂᐊ·ᐣ 1987 ᐱᑕᒪ ᐁᑭ ᐁ ᑭᓇᐊ·<ᑕᑭᐟ ᑫᑲ·ᓂ· ᑫᐢᑫᓂ-ᑲᑌᐟ ᐅᒪ ᐅ- ᓯᐱ⁺ᵥ ᐃᑲ·ᓂ ᐅᒪ ᐱᒧᑌᐢᑲᓵ· ᑭ ᐃᓯ ᐊ·ᓇᑭ-ᑲᑌ· CHRS ᐅᒪ 2000 ᐁᑯ ᑕᑭᓯ ᑫ ᐃᓯ <ᒪᓂᑲᑌᐟ ᑭ ᒪ-ᑕᓂᐊ·ᐣ 2001. ᑫ ᐃᓯ ᒪ-ᑕᑌᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᒪ ᐃᓯ-ᑌᑫᐃ·ᐣ ᐅᒪᑎᐃᵌᑕᐁ·ᐣᑕᐁ·ᓂ-ᑫᐃ·ᵌᓇᑕᐁ·ᐣ ᐊᐊ· Manitoba Conservation ᒪᑲ ᑕ ᐊ·ᐃ·-"ᑯᐊ·ᐟ ᐊᐳᐊ· Norway House,Bunibonibee, Shamattawa ᐁᑯ York Factory First Nations. ᐅᒪ ᑲᑭ <<ᒪ ᑲᐟᐁ·-ᑫᒧᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐅᒪ ᑲᐟᐃ· ᐃᓯ-ᑲᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᓇᑎᐃ- ᑭ ᑭᑎᑕᑕᐣ ᐃᑎᐱᐟ ᑲᑭ ᐊ·ᓇᑎ-ᑲᑌᐟ >ᒪ ᐃᓯ-ᑫᐃ·ᐣᵥ

ᐅᒪ ᐃᓯ-ᑫᐃ·ᐣᓯᑭ ᓂ<ᐃ·ᑎᑕᑯ>ᑯ ᑲᐃ·ᑎᐟᐁᑯ ᑦᐁ·- ᐁᑭ ᐃᑲ<ᑕᑭ ᐅᑭ ᑭᐟ- ᑭᑎᑕᑕᐣ ᐃᑎᐱᐟ ᐃᓯ ᐱᒪᐊ·ᑕᓯᓇᓂᐊ·ᐟ ᐃᓂᑯᐟ ᐊᵌᑭ⁺ ᐱᒪᑎᓯᐃ·ᐣ ᐁᑯ ᐃᓯ ᐱᒪᑎᓯᐃ·ᓇ ᑫ ᐃᓯ <ᒪᓂᑲᑌᑭ ᐁᑯ ᑕᓂᓯ ᑫ ᐃᑲᑎᐊᓇ-ᑲᑌᐟ ᐊᵌᑭ⁺ ᐃᓂᑯᐟ ᒪᑲ ᑕ ᓇᑲᑕᐁ·ᓂ-ᑲᑌᐟ ᐅᒪ ᐁᓯ ᒪᑲ·<ᑕᐟ ᓯᐱ⁺ ᵥ ᐁᑲ· ᓂᐟ ᐅᑭ ᑫ ᐊ<ᑕᓂᓵᐟ ᐊᵌᑕ ᐃᓯ CHRS ᑭ"- ᓯᐱ⁺ Hayes River. ᐊᓂᑭ ᐃᑎᑯᓂᑲᓂ"ᐃ ᐊᓯᑕᒪᑫᐃ·ᓇ ᑭᓇᐊ·<-ᑲᑌᐊ· ᐁᑯ ᐊ<ᑕᓵ ᐅᒪ ᑲᐃ· ᐃᑲᑎᑲᑌᐟ CHRS. ᐅᑭᐟ ᐃᑎ ᓇᵌᑕ· ᑲ ᐃᓯ ᐊᐅ-ᐟ ᐁ ᑎᐯᓂᑭᐟ ᐊᑎᑭᓂ· ᑲ ᒣ-ᒪᓇᑭᐟ ᓯᓂᐅ· ᐊᓯᓂᐅ ᑲ ᓇᑐᓇᐊ·-ᐟ ᐃᑌ ᒣᑲᓇᐊ· ᑲ ᐱᒪᒧᑭ ᐁᑯ ᒪᓇᑲ ᑭᑭ ᐅᑭ ᑲ

ᑐᒃᓇᑭᓵᐅᑦ ᐊᓂᑭ ᑕᐃᓂᓇᒪᑫᐃᓂ ᒪᓯᓇᖏᐃᑲᓂᓵᓴ ᑲᐃᓂᓴᑦ ᑕ ᑭᓇᐁᓂᑲᑌᐊᓂ

ᐊᐳᓂ ᐅᒪ ᑲ ᐅᓂ ᑭᓇᐊᓂᐸᓂᑲᑌᑦ ᐊᐣᑕ ᐊᓂᒪ Management Plan ᐅᓂ Hayes River ᑕ ᓇᖏᐃᓴᑭᒪᑲᑦ ᐁᑯ ᑕ ᐊᐸᑕᑭ ᐊᓂᑭ ᑕ ᒪᒪᐃᓂ ᐃᑐᓂᑲᑌᑭ ᐊᓂᖏᖏᐃᓂᓇ ᐃᓂᑯᑦ ᑕ ᑭᓇᐊᓂᐸᑕᑭ ᑕ ᓂᖏᑲᓂᑎᓵᓵᑦ ᑕ ᑐᒃᓇᑦ ᐊᓂᖏᖏᐃ ᑲ ᓂᑲᖏᐃ ᑲ ᓂᑲᖏᐃᐃᑭᑭ ᐃᓱᐱᒪᓂᖏᓇ ᐁᑯ ᑲ ᐃᓱ ᒣᑕᐊᓂᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᐁᑯ ᐃᓱ ᐊᓇᑯᓂᑲᑌᑦ ᐊᐣᑕ ᐅᓂ Canadian Heritage Rivers System. ᐊᓂᒪ ᐃᓱᓂᐃᐃᓵ ᐃᓖᑕᑫ ᑲᐃᓂ ᐃᓱ ᐸᑐᓂᑲᑌᑦ ᐅᒪ

1. ᐃᑌ ᑲ ᐃᑲᐸᑌᐟ ᓂᐱᐩ ᐁᑯ ᑕᓂᓱ ᑲ ᐃᑲᑲᑐᒣ
2. ᑕ ᑭᖘᑭᓄᑕᐃᓖᑦ ᑲᑭᓇᐧ ᐊᐱᓂᓂᐊᓂᑦ
3. ᑲᐃᓖᑦ ᑭᑕ ᓇᑲᖏᑲᑌᑭ ᐅᑭ ᖘᑲᓇ ᐅᒪ ᑲ ᐃᓱᓇᐃᑭ ᐁᑯ ᑲ ᐃᓱ ᐱᐣᑭᓂᑭ
4. ᑲᐃᓖᑦ ᑕ ᓇᑲᑕᓂᐊᓂᑭ ᐅᑭ ᖘᑭ ᐯᐃᖘ ᐱᒪᓵᑭᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᐁᑯ ᐃᑕ ᑲᑭ ᑕᓱ ᓄᑲᓂᐊᓂᑦ
5. ᑲᑭᓇᐧ ᐊᐃᓂᔭᑦ ᑕ ᐣᓇ ᐊᐸᑕᑦ ᐱᐁ ᐃᓂ ᔭᐳᑐᑕᑭ ᐅᒪ ᐃᑌ

ᐁᑲᓂᓂᒪ ᐊᓂᒪ ᑲᑭ ᐃᓱ ᐱᒪᑲᐣᑭᓱᓇᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᓄᑌ ᐅᓂ ᒪᑕᐢ Archway ᓇᖘᑕᐃᓂᑲᐣᓱᓱᑦ Norway House ᐃᔨᔅᑦ ᓄᑌ York Factory ᐅᒪ Hudson Bay ᐃᑌᑫᓵ ᐃᓂᑯᑦ ᓇᐢᑕᓂ ᓂᓱ ᐣᑕ ᑐᐣᑕᓇᓄᖘᓇ ᐸᖘᑕ ᐅᓂ ᐊᑊᐃᑕᐊᓂᐳᑦ ᐊᓂᑭᐢ Hayes River, Echimamish River ᐁᑯ ᐊᓂᒪ Nelson River ᐃᓂᑯᑦ ᐊᐢᑌ ᑲ ᒪᑕᐃᓂᓱᖘᑦ ᖁᑭᑕᓂ ᐁᕈᒪᐣᑦ ᐃᖘᑯ Norway House ᐁᑯ ᐣᓇ ᑲᑭᓇᓂ ᖁᑲᑊᐃᑲᓇ ᐅᒪ ᐃᑌ ᑲ ᐊᐣᖘ ᐃᓱᓇᑭᑭ ᐅᑭ ᓱᐱᖅᓂ

ᐊᓂᒪ ᑲᑭ ᐃᑌᓂᑕᒧᓇᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᑕ ᐃᓱ ᐸᑐᓂᑲᑌᑦ ᐅᒪ ᐃᓱᓂᐃᐃᓵ ᓇᑕᐁᓂᒪᐊᓂᑦ ᑕ ᒪᒪᑊᐅᑭᑦ ᐃᓂᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᐁᑯ ᑲᑭᓇᐧ ᖁᑲᑊᐃᑲᓇ ᖁᖖᒪᐃᓂᓂᐊᓂᑦ ᐁᑯ ᐃᑕ ᑲᑭᓇᐧ ᖁᑲᑊᐃᑲᓇ ᐅᒪ ᐅᑎᓇᑭ ᐅᑭ ᓱᐱᖅᓂ ᐁᑯ ᐃᑕ ᑲᑭᓇᐧ ᐅᑭ ᐅᑎᓇᑭ ᐅᑭ ᐱᐣᑭᓂᑭ

RÉSUMÉ

Créé en 1984, le Réseau des rivières du patrimoine canadien (RRPC) est un programme de coopération entre le gouvernement fédéral et ses homologues provinciaux et territoriaux. Son objectif est de faire en sorte que les rivières importantes du Canada soient appréciées à l'échelle nationale, que l'on conserve les plus beaux exemples du patrimoine fluvial canadien et que la population apprenne à connaître et à apprécier les rivières du Canada.

La route historique de commerce des fourrures de la rivière Hayes, au Manitoba, s'étend sur 600 km entre York Factory, sur la baie d'Hudson, et Norway House, près du lac Winnipeg. Elle comprend la rivière Hayes, la rivière Echimamish et la partie du fleuve Nelson située entre Norway House et l'embouchure de la rivière Echimamish. (Sur ce plan, *rivière Hayes* fait habituellement référence à l'ensemble de la route.) Cette route est un remarquable exemple du patrimoine fluvial du Canada. Pendant près de 250 ans, la Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson l'a utilisée comme sa principale voie de circulation pour le commerce des fourrures. Ces rivières traversent des régions naturelles qui demeurent, aujourd'hui encore, parmi les plus intactes du Manitoba. La route permet de découvrir la flore et la faune de la forêt boréale et de la côte de la baie d'Hudson. Elle offre aussi une occasion unique d'explorer la nature sauvage au fil de l'eau et de s'adonner à la pêche récréative dans une région marquée par l'histoire du commerce des fourrures.

La préparation d'une étude de base, en 1987, a constitué la première étape du processus visant à inclure la rivière Hayes dans le Réseau des rivières du patrimoine canadien. La route a été sélectionnée en l'an 2000 et l'on a commencé à travailler sur ce plan de gestion en 2001. Conservation Manitoba a pris en charge la préparation du plan, avec l'aide d'un comité consultatif des Premières nations comprenant des représentants des Premières nations de Norway House, de Bunibonibee, de Shamattawa et de York Factory. La participation étendue du public était une partie intégrante de la préparation du plan.

Le plan de gestion a pour fondements l'utilisation et l'application des lois, des règlements et des politiques existants relatifs à la gestion des ressources naturelles et culturelles et à l'évaluation environnementale. S'y ajoutent la conscience aiguë et le soutien de la valeur patrimoniale et récréative de la rivière. Tels seront les principaux outils ou mesures utilisés pour préserver les richesses de la rivière Hayes dans le cadre du Réseau des rivières du patrimoine canadien. Les droits ancestraux ou issus des traités des

peuples autochtones sont entièrement reconnus dans ce plan et dans le cadre de la désignation par le Réseau. Les droits des propriétaires fonciers et des propriétaires à bail, les aliénations minières, les emprises routières ou de services publics et l'attribution de ressources naturelles en vertu de permis ou de licences seront également entièrement respectés.

L'objectif du plan de gestion de la rivière Hayes est de compléter et d'appliquer les processus existants de coopération et de gestion intégrée des ressources, afin de reconnaître, de promouvoir et d'appuyer le patrimoine naturel et culturel ainsi que la valeur récréative au nom desquels la rivière Hayes a été sectionnée dans le cadre du Réseau des rivières du patrimoine canadien. Le plan présente des objectifs et des actions relatifs à :

1. l'écoulement et la qualité de l'eau;
2. la compréhension et la sensibilisation du public; l'interprétation à l'intention du public;
3. l'intégrité des caractéristiques et des processus du patrimoine naturel;
4. l'intégrité des caractéristiques du patrimoine culturel;
5. la satisfaction des visiteurs et les activités récréatives.

Le plan s'applique à un couloir qui va de l'entrepôt Archway, à Norway House, jusqu'à York Factory, sur la baie d'Hudson. La largeur de ce couloir atteint 200 mètres à la laisse de crue ordinaire, le long des deux rives de la rivière Hayes, de la rivière Echimamish et de la partie du fleuve Nelson située entre l'embouchure de la rivière Echimamish et Norway House. Le couloir comprend également les lacs traversés par ces rivières.

Les objectifs, intentions et actions présentés dans ce plan de gestion requièrent la coopération et la participation des organismes de gestion des gouvernements fédéral et provincial, des Premières nations, du secteur public et des partenaires du public. Si toutes les parties approuvent les objectifs communs pour la rivière et incluent ces objectifs dans leurs activités et leurs décisions, il sera possible de mettre en œuvre ce plan et de gérer la rivière Hayes dans le cadre du Réseau des rivières du patrimoine canadien. Le contrôle annuel et décennal exigé par le Réseau permettra de mesurer l'efficacité de ce plan et de maintenir la participation de la population aux activités liées à la rivière Hayes.

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE HAYES RIVER IN MANITOBA

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Purpose of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS)

Canadian Heritage Rivers System

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is a cooperative program established in 1984 to give national recognition to rivers which have outstanding natural and human heritage values and provide significant recreational opportunities. The federal government, and all provinces and territories participate in the program. The Parks and Natural Areas Branch of Manitoba Conservation manages the CHRS program in Manitoba.

The objectives of the CHRS are to give national recognition to Canada's important rivers and to ensure their future management such that:

- the natural heritage which they represent is conserved and interpreted;
- the human heritage which they represent is conserved and interpreted;
- the opportunities they possess for recreation and heritage appreciation are realized by residents of and visitors to Canada.

Participation in the CHRS by provinces and territories is voluntary and participants retain traditional jurisdictional powers, including land ownership and management. **Map 1** illustrates the rivers currently in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System in 2004.

Map 1: Canadian Heritage Rivers System, 2004

1.2 Hayes River Nomination and Designation Process

Public Open House Meeting held in York Landing, 2002

Work to bring the Hayes River into the Canadian Heritage Rivers System began in 1987 with the preparation of a background study. This study consisted of an inventory and assessment of the natural, cultural and recreational values of the river. Preparation of this study involved a trip on the Hayes River to do site investigations.

The Hayes River was nominated to the CHRS in 2000 in recognition of its outstanding natural heritage, human heritage and recreational values. The nomination included the entire historic fur trade route of approximately 600 kilometres, beginning at the Archway Warehouse in Norway House and ending at York Factory on Hudson Bay. It includes the entire Hayes River northeast of Lake Winnipeg to Hudson Bay, as well as a part of the Nelson River north of Norway House and the Echimamish River, connecting the Nelson and the Hayes. (Throughout this plan, the name "Hayes River" will normally refer to the entire route.)

In 2001, work began on a management plan for the Hayes. The management plan is intended to be the designation document that would allow the river to achieve its full status as a Canadian Heritage River

Public participation has been central to the preparation of this management plan. First Nations, interested citizens, river users and other stakeholders have all helped to identify the management issues and the directions for management to promote awareness and protection of the river's integrity, heritage and recreational values. Participants have helped to shape how the Hayes River will be conserved for future generations. The public participation process is summarized below and the results have been shared in newsletters as the planning process proceeded.

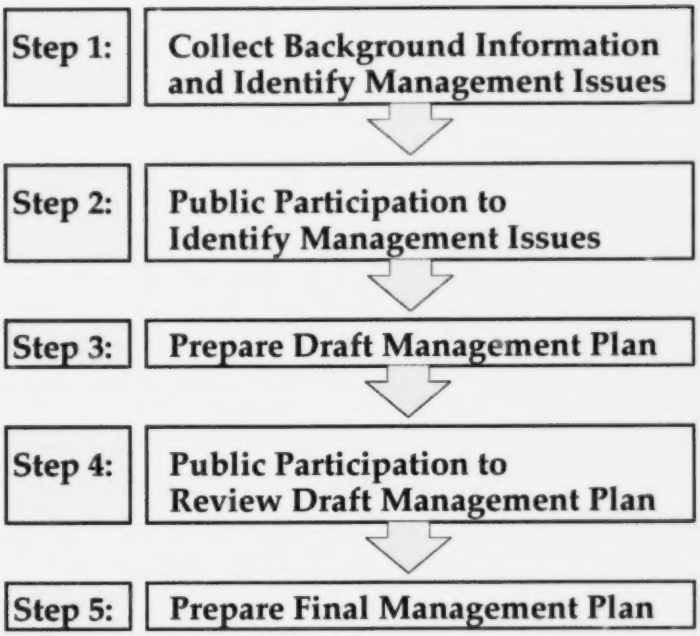


Figure 1: Public Participation Process

Many management and cooperating agencies have also participated in the preparation of the plan. Review and input have been received from the various resource branches of Manitoba Conservation; Manitoba Water Stewardship; Manitoba Industry, Economic Development and Mines; Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism; Manitoba Hydro; Parks Canada and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

1.3 Purpose of the Management Plan

As a designation document for the CHRS, this management plan is intended to:

- identify a river management area to be included in the CHRS;
- set out policies, system-based management objectives, strategic directions and actions to ensure that the river's development, management and use are consistent with the objectives of the CHRS;
- clearly demonstrate the commitment on the part of the nominating jurisdiction and stakeholders to conserve and interpret the river's heritage values and realize its recreational opportunities; and
- describe how the river will be managed to conserve the values for which it was nominated.

1.4 Recognition of Rights and Existing Activities

Existing Aboriginal and treaty rights are fully recognized and respected in the CHRS designation. Landowner rights, leasehold rights, mineral dispositions, rights-of-way for roads and utilities and natural resource allocations under licences and permits are also fully respected.

The management plan recognizes and accommodates land and resource uses of the river, while ensuring that the values for which the river was nominated to the CHRS are conserved and celebrated. The management plan and the designation of the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River do not impose new legislation or new regulations for use of the river and adjacent land areas.

2.0 THE HAYES RIVER

2.1 Character and Values

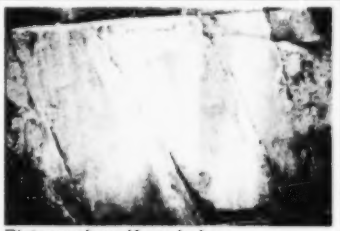
The CHRS provides a comprehensive framework for describing and recognizing natural heritage, human heritage and recreation themes for river assessment and designation. The purpose of this section is to depict the river's character and present the natural, cultural and heritage values that meet CHRS guidelines and justify Canadian Heritage River designation.

The Hayes River is one of the most remote, scenic and unaltered waterways in Manitoba. It remains today, in one sense, very much as it was known over the millennia of occupancy by First Nations people and more recently, by European explorers who arrived over three centuries ago. For the most part, the Hayes is still a wild river flowing through a pristine landscape of granite and boreal forest in the south, and ancient marine sediments and taiga forest near Hudson Bay.

The waters of the Hayes River reflect the natural condition of its watershed, where there are very few developments or activities that might impair water quality. The Echimamish River is in the Nelson River watershed and, like the Hayes, flows through an area with little development that might impact its water quality. The Nelson River portion of the route, from Norway House to the mouth of the Echimamish, drains Lake Winnipeg and reflects the water quality of that large watershed including its relatively high sediment and nutrient loads.

The Hayes River is a part of the culture and heritage of First Nations, serving as a travel route through a vast region and a source of livelihood for Aboriginal peoples. The river also played a pivotal role in the Canadian fur trade and early European settlement of the continental interior. It was very much a 'working river' and was used as a commercial corridor to transport people and goods inland and the bounty of furs out to York Factory and Europe. Exploration and military encounters by the colonizing powers of France and England are also a part of the Hayes River story.

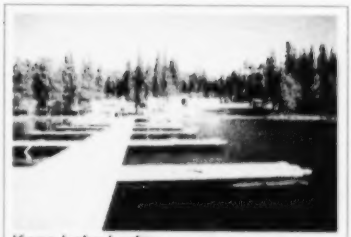
Hell Gates Gorge


Pictograph on Knee Lake

York Factory National Historic Site

Norway House Cree Nation community

Today, a river traveller on the Hayes discovers both its wild, rugged and remote qualities, together with many reminders of the river's human heritage in the form of portages, historic structures and artefacts of the early exploration and industrial period. The river traverses traditional territory of four First Nations and these communities continue their long and established traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping. The First Nations and Northern Affairs communities at Norway House and Oxford House are situated right on the river and the people from these communities actively use and travel its course. Remote fly-in fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing originate from tourist lodges located on the Hayes River route. Other commercial activities, such as mineral exploration and development and electrical transmission lines, are evident at sites along the river. There are also several winter road crossings of the Hayes, and along the Nelson River portion of the route, a ferry crossing with Provincial Road 373. These commercial and industrial activities are significant factors in the economic development of the region.


Knee Lake Lodge

These are all aspects of the modern day "working landscape" that visitors can expect to encounter as they travel the Hayes River. The river traveller must also expect conditions, such as sudden changes of weather, hidden shoals in the tidal zone of the lower Hayes and chance encounters with polar bears. The visitor to the Hayes should be well prepared to tackle the challenges of this legendary river.

The CHRS has frameworks for describing and categorizing the natural heritage, human heritage and recreational values of rivers. The diverse and complex values of the Hayes River relative to these framework themes are described through images and text on **Maps 2, 3 and 4**. Greater details about these values may be found in *The Hayes River Canadian Heritage Rivers System Background Study* (1987) and the *Nomination Document for the Hayes River Manitoba* (1999).

Hayes River Natural Heritage Values

Hydrology

The Echimamish River

Water Content
- The Hayes River - low in sediments, moderate dissolved solids
- The Nelson River - heavy in sediments, high in dissolved solids

Seasonal Flow Variation
- Minor occurence of two peak flow periods per year

Drainage Basin
- Nelson River Basin and Hayes River Basin

River Size
- The Hayes, a large river of stream order 1
- Outstanding major river unaltered by development
- The Echimamish, a small river of stream order 2

Vegetation

The Hayes River

Significant Plant Communities
- Northern tree limit influenced by proximity of Hudson Bay coast
- 36 species of provincially rare plants

River Morphology

Hell Gates Gorge

Valleys
- Vertical walls, braided channel pattern, flat adjacent landscapes

Lakes and Ponds Waterfalls and Rapids
- Ledges
- Robinson Falls, Trout Falls

River Landforms
- Deltas, outwash deposits, fans, braided channels, bars, islands, bank slumping
- Gorges - "Hell Gates" Gorge

Hell Gates Mist.

Physiography

"Marine Clays" - mud banks

Hudson Bay Lowlands

Precambrian Shield - granite shoreline

Geology and River Flow
- Precambrian Shield - granite and gneiss bedrock
- Tyrrell Sea Clay Deposits (lower section of the Hayes River)
- Two way flow of the Echimamish River
- Only unaltered river to flow across Precambrian Shield
- Unique representation of stream flow through Nelson/Churchill trough

Evidence of Significant Geological Events
- "Greenstone Belts" - Areas of mineral potential
- Moraines
- Glacial rebound (lower section of the Hayes River)

Physical Landscape Regions
- Precambrian Shield - James Bay region
- Hudson Bay Lowlands

Topography
- Shallow slope or gradient

Animals

Abundant Wildlife
- Fish - Brook Trout, Walleye, Pike
- Mammals - Beluga Whales, Polar Bears, Wolves, Moose
- Birds - Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Canada Geese and Bank Swallows

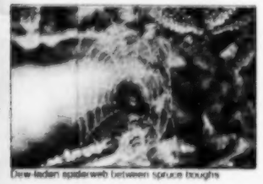
Polar Bear

Wolverine

Wildlife Sensitive To Human Activity Or Natural Events
- Mammals - Polar Bear, Woodland Caribou and Wolverine
- Birds - Ivory Gull
- Fish - Sturgeon

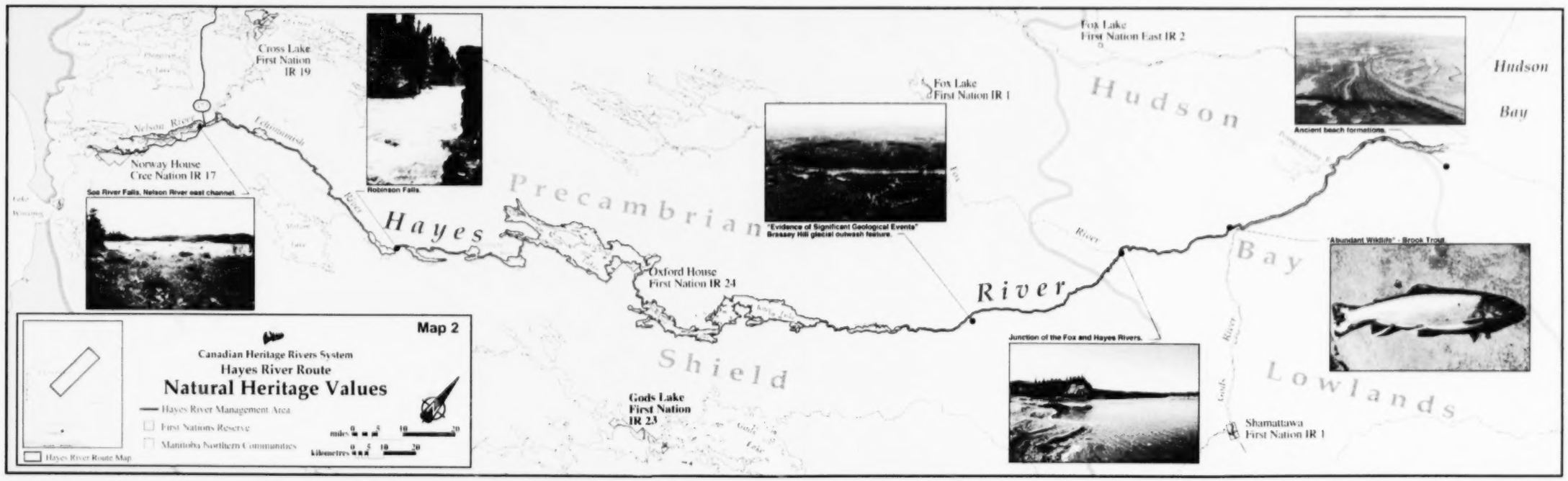
Biotic Environments

Water Ecosystems
- Rivers, lakes, estuaries and wetlands
- Aquatic ecosystem in fact with no discernable contamination or water quality alteration
- No man-made impoundments
- Key elements/components unaffected by impoundments outside nominated area


Dew-laden spiderweb between spruce boughs

Wetland ecosystem found on the Echimamish River

Land Ecosystems
- Boreal Shield and Hudson Plain



Hayes River Human Heritage Values

Water Transport

...pt. Ross' Tug, Norway House, 1910." (Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Still Images Section, A.V. Thomas Collection, Item No. 168, Neg. #242.)

"York Factory - Arrival of Hudson Bay Company's ship" (Public Archives of Canada Photo Neg. No. C7963.)

River Navigation
- Fur trade route
- York boats, canoes
- Echimamish dams
- Travel artery for explorers, fur traders, settlers
- Nationally significant canoe route

Onshore Services
- Construction, storage and replacement of watercraft
- Cargo handling facilities
- Places for provisioning passengers and crew
- Robinson Falls tramway

Resource Harvesting

Fishing, Trapping and Hunting
- Hayes River - a focus for the evolution of aboriginal way of life

"The Cree Hunter and his family sketched at York Factory in 1821 by P. Rindisbacher." (Public Archives of Canada)

Shoreline Settlement

"Teepees, York Factory, 1916" (Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Still Images Section, John A. Campbell Collection, Item No. 144.)

Siting of Dwellings
- Fur trade structures and sites: HBC Archway Warehouse and York Factory
- Hudson Bay Co. posts and nucleated aboriginal settlements

Community Adaptations To Rivers
- Shoreline Aboriginal settlements
- 15 prehistoric and 40 historic aboriginal sites
- Current land use dispersed and related to the fur trade
- Settlement influence: York Factory, Norway House, Oxford House, Red River

Culture and Recreation

Spiritual and Symbolic Uses
- Ritual or ceremonial structures: e.g. Painted Stone Portage
- Pictographs
- Burial grounds

Painted Stone Portage spiritual site

"York boats at Norway House" by W.J. Phillips (HBC Archives)

Artistic Expression
- River literature and folklore
- Paintings of the river or people using the river

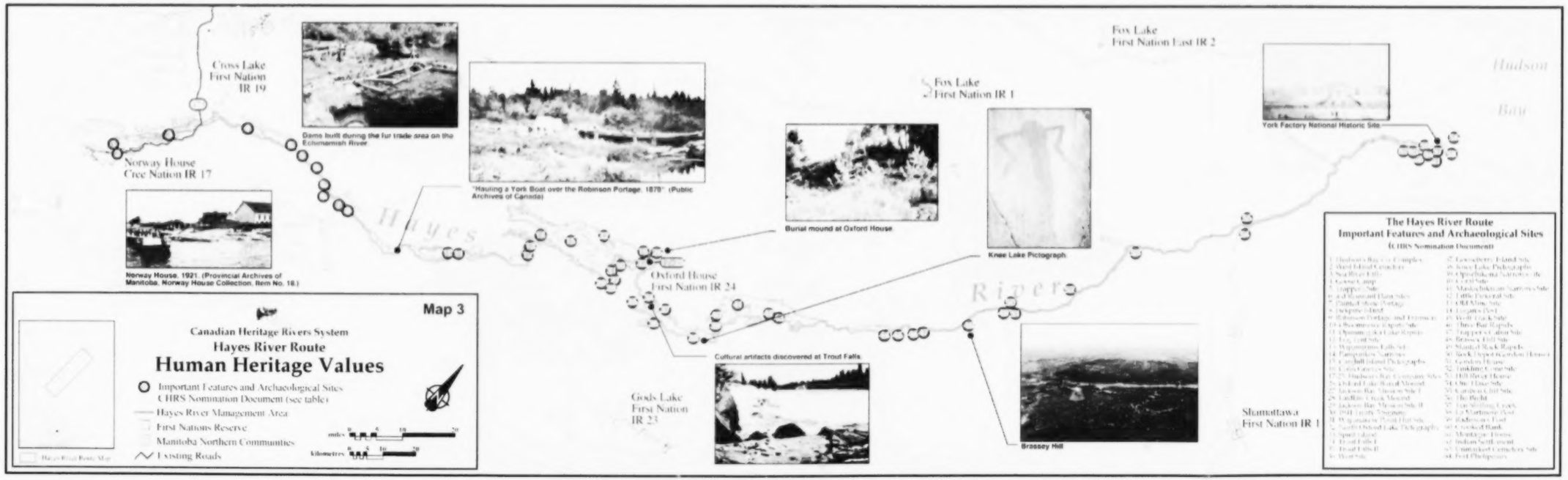
Trout Falls Portage. (HBC Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba.)

Jurisdictional Use

Exploration and Route Surveys
- Explorers and surveyors: e.g. Henry Kelsey
- Land areas claimed by a colonizing power
- Commercial exploration

Military Uses
- Sites of European armed conflict
- Military expeditions: Sixth Regiment of Foot, 1846
- River-side forts: Fort Bourbon

"The bombardment of York Factory by the French in 1697." (Provincial Archives of Manitoba.)


Cross Lake First Nation IR 19
Norway House Cree Nation IR 17
Dams built during the fur trade era on the Echimamish River
"Hauling a York Boat over the Robinson Portage, 1878." (Public Archives of Canada)
Norway House, 1921. (Provincial Archives of Manitoba, Norway House Collection, Item No. 18.)
Burial mound at Oxford House
Oxford House First Nation IR 24
Fox Lake First Nation IR 1
Knee Lake Pictograph
Fox Lake First Nation East IR 2
York Factory National Historic Site
Hudson Bay
Hayes River
Cultural artifacts discovered at Trout Falls
Gods Lake First Nation IR 23
Brassey Hill
Shamattawa First Nation IR 1
Canadian Heritage Rivers System
Hayes River Route
Human Heritage Values
Map 3
Important Features and Archaeological Sites (HRS Nomination Document) (see table)
Hayes River Management Area
First Nations Reserve
Manitoba Northern Communities
Existing Roads
miles
kilometres

The Hayes River Route
Important Features and Archaeological Sites
(CHRS Nomination Document)

1. Hudson's Bay Co. Complex	27. Brassey Hill Site
2. York Factory National Historic Site	28. Knee Lake Pictographs
3. Sea River Falls	29. Opachukanis Narrows Site
4. Goose Creek	30. Cairn Site
5. Trapper Site	31. Machichekan Narrows Site
6. and Historical Plaque Sites	32. Little Pickerel Site
7. Painted Stone Portage	33. Old Mine Site
8. Sekapetu Island	34. Sturgeon Post
9. Robinson Portage and Historical Plaque	35. Wolf Den Site
10. Bloodmoney Rapids Site	36. Three Bar Rapids
11. Opasquia Lake Rapids	37. Trapper's Cabin Site
12. Egg Island Site	38. Brassey Hill Site
13. Waquimanus Falls Site	39. Masked Rock Rapids
14. Pangnakees Narrows	40. Rock Dipped Kettles (Historic)
15. Cowbell Island Pictographs	41. Gordon's House
16. Cross Narrows Site	42. Jenkins Cairn Site
17-25. Hudson's Bay Company Sites	43. Hill River House
26. Island Lake Burial Mound	44. Otter Lake Site
27. Jackson Bay Moose Site I	45. Garden Island Site
28. Laidlaw Creek Mound	46. The Beehive
29. Jackson Bay Moose Site II	47. Fur Trading Depot
30. 1908 Lonely Snowgoose	48. La Martinique Post
31. Waquimanus Point Historic	49. Robinson Post
32. Twelve Island Lake Pictographs	50. Crooked Bank
33. Sipsuk Lake	51. Montague House
34. Trout Falls I	52. Indian Settlement
35. Trout Falls II	53. Unmarked Cemetery Site
36. River Site	54. Fort Philippeaux

Hayes River Recreational Values

Boating

- Outstanding whitewater canoeing, kayaking and rafting
- Extended canoe tripping (motor and non-motor)

Whitewater canoeing

Flatwater canoeing

Water Contact Activities

- Swimming

Swimming on the Hayes

Angling

Angling for Northern Pike

- Excellent fishing: Walleye, Northern Pike, Brook Trout, and Sturgeon

Northern Pike

Water Associated Activities

Camping along the Hayes

- Camping
- Hunting

Natural Heritage Appreciation

Scenic vista of river and landscape

- Outstanding opportunites for appreciation of land and water features
- Pristine boreal forests, Canadian Shield and Hudson Bay Lowland landscapes
- Localized development that does not compromise wilderness

Enjoying the river environment

Bald Eagle

Winter Activities

- Snowmobiling and dog sledding

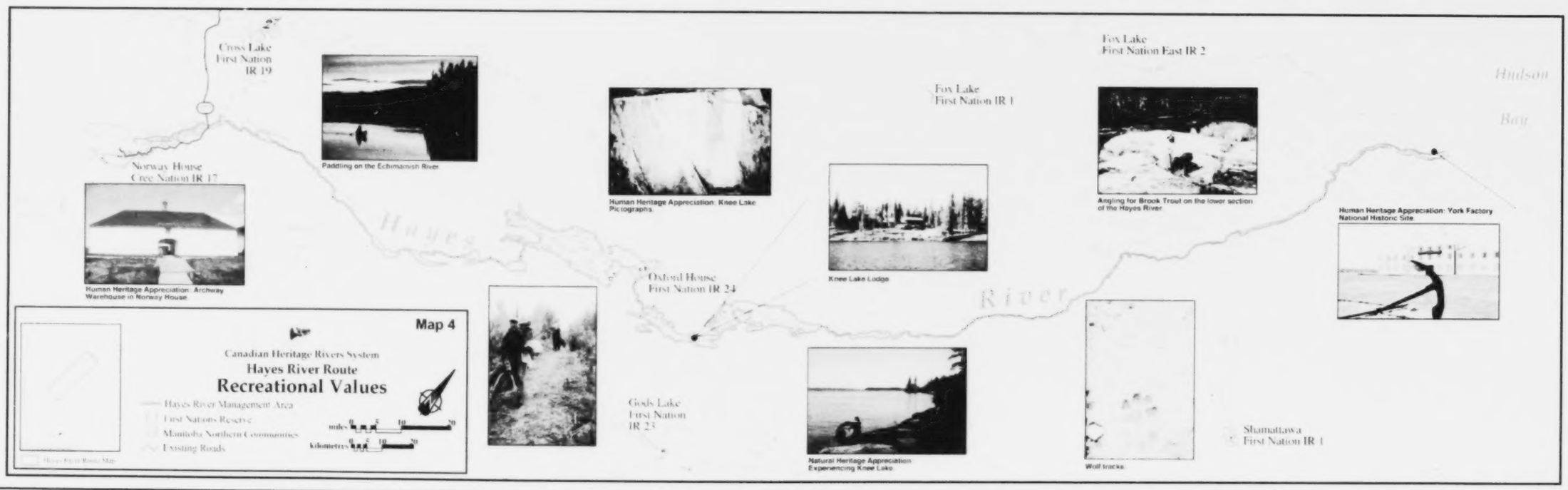
Recreational snowmobiling

Human Heritage Appreciation

- Historic sites: e.g. York Factory National Historic Site
- Cultural landscapes: e.g. Painted Stone Portage, Robinson Falls Tramway and Pictographs

Human heritage appreciation - pictographs

River legacy - the Robinson Falls tramway


Cross Lake First Nation IR 19
Norway House Cree Nation IR 17
Oxford House First Nation IR 24
Gods Lake First Nation IR 23
Fox Lake First Nation IR 1
Fox Lake First Nation East IR 2
Shamattawa First Nation IR 1
Hudson Bay
Hayes River
Map 4
Canadian Heritage Rivers System
Hayes River Route
Recreational Values
Hayes River Management Area
First Nations Reserve
Manitoba Northern Communities
Existing Roads
miles 0 5 10 20
kilometres 0 5 10 20
Paddling on the Echimamish River

Human Heritage Appreciation: Knee Lake Pictographs

Angling for Brook Trout on the lower section of the Hayes River

Human Heritage Appreciation: Archway Warehouse in Norway House

Knee Lake Lodge

Human Heritage Appreciation: York Factory National Historic Site

Natural Heritage Appreciation: Experiencing Knee Lake

Wolf tracks

2.2 Existing Activities and Use

The Hayes River is a part of a region that provides an important resource base both for the people that live there and the Province of Manitoba as a whole. First Nations carry out traditional fishing, hunting and trapping throughout the region. Norway House and Oxford House are vibrant and growing communities along the route. The route is crossed by a ferry on a provincial road at Sea River Falls and by winter roads to Oxford House and Shamattawa. Power transmission lines cross the route, extensive mineral exploration is carried out based on highly mineralised greenstone belts and areas of diamond potential underlying much of the region, and there is also forestry potential, undeveloped at present due to the region's remoteness. Remote tourist lodges and outcamps have been developed, based on the renowned hunting and fishing opportunities. Both ends of the route, the Archway Warehouse at Norway House and York Factory, are National Historic Sites.

York Factory First Nation members hunting along the lower Hayes River

Winter road bridge at Wapanipanis Portage on the Hayes River

In addition to the multitude of activities and uses along the Hayes, there are several different jurisdictions that have responsibility for land, water and resources along the route. Most of the lands along the Hayes are Provincial Crown Lands administered by Manitoba Conservation, while the waters and fisheries are managed by Manitoba Water Stewardship. In the traditional territories of York Factory First Nation and Norway House Cree Nation are Resource Management Boards created under the authority of the Northern Flood Agreement (NFA) to facilitate the joint planning and management of resources between the First Nation and Manitoba. Along the entire route are various reserve lands that are administered by Norway House Cree Nation, Bunibonibee First Nation (Oxford House), Shamattawa First Nation and York Factory First Nation. Northern Affairs communities exist at both Norway House and Oxford House. Parks Canada administers the lands and buildings at York Factory National Historic Site. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has responsibility with respect to fish habitat along the Hayes. Some private lands also exist at Norway House and Oxford House. The Archway Warehouse National Historic Site at Norway House is owned and managed by The North West Company.

All of the people who use the river share in the responsibility for its management. Recreational users, industrial and commercial users, and environmental organizations all have the potential to help conserve the values of the Hayes, or conversely, may negatively impact these values.

3.0 CONSERVATION CHALLENGES AND APPROACH

3.1 Management Context

The natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values of the Hayes River that meet CHRS guidelines have been depicted in the preceding section. Managing for their conservation must meet all CHRS requirements, while fully recognizing and respecting the diverse resource and land use rights, interests and commitments in the region. The approach to management must be cooperative and coordinated, applying existing relevant laws, regulations and policies. CHRS designation of the Hayes River will not require or invoke new legislation or placing the river in a park or protected area.

3.2 CHRS Integrity Guidelines

The Hayes River currently meets CHRS Integrity Guidelines and future management must aim to ensure that the river's integrity is conserved. Many of its values, as earlier described, are site-specific in nature: e.g., a pictograph site or a scenic waterfall. Other values are inherent to the entire river or major parts of it, such as water quality, aesthetic values or particular fish and wildlife habitats.

The CHRS integrity guidelines that must be fulfilled in managing the Hayes River are as follows:

CHRS Natural Integrity Values

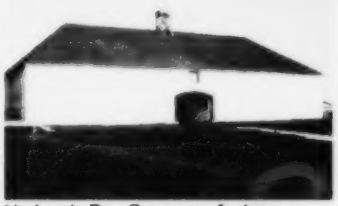
- The area is of sufficient size and contains all or most of the key interrelated and interdependent elements to demonstrate the key aspects of natural processes, features, or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding natural value;
- The area contains those ecosystem components required for the continuity of the species, features or objects to be protected;
- There are no man-made impoundments within the nominated section;
- All key elements and ecosystem components are unaffected by impoundments located outside the nominated section;

Natural shoreline along the Hayes River

- Natural values for which the river is nominated have not been created by impoundments;
- The water of the nominated section of the river is uncontaminated to the extent that its natural aquatic ecosystem is intact; and
- The natural aesthetic value of the river is not compromised by human developments.

CHRS Cultural Integrity Values

- The nominated area is of sufficient size and contains all or most of the key interrelated and interdependent elements to demonstrate the key aspects of the features, activities or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding cultural value;
- The visual appearance of the nominated section of the river enables an appreciation of at least one of the periods of the river's historical importance;
- The key artefacts and sites comprising the values for which the river is nominated are unimpaired by impoundments and human uses; and
- The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the aesthetic appearance or cultural experience provided by its cultural values.



Hudson's Bay Company Archway Warehouse in Norway House, a National Historic Site

CHRS Recreational Integrity Values

- The river possesses water of a quality suitable for contact recreational activities, including those recreational opportunities for which it is nominated;
- The river's visual appearance is capable of providing river travellers with a continuous natural experience or a combined natural and cultural experience, without significant interruption by modern human intrusions; and
- The river is capable of supporting increased recreational uses without significant loss of or impact on its natural, cultural or aesthetic values.

Canoeing the Echimamish River

3.3 Effective Use and Coordination of Existing Management Measures

Management of the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River will depend upon cooperation and effective coordination. The effective use and application of existing legislation, regulations and policies concerning natural and cultural resource management and environmental assessment, combined with a broad awareness and support for heritage and recreational values of the river, will be the principal tools or measures to conserve the CHRS values of the Hayes River.

CHRS status will reflect the desire by all parties to ensure that land use planning and resource development properly account for and conserve the integrity of the heritage and recreational values for which the river has been nominated. The conservation challenge lies in fostering cooperation and a sharing of common goals amongst all associated with the Hayes. With all parties embracing common goals for the river and incorporating those goals into their activities and the decisions for which they are responsible, a level of care befitting the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River can be achieved.

4.0 MANAGEMENT GOAL, INTENTS AND ACTIONS

4.1 Context

Achieving a level of care appropriate for the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River will require all river citizens to incorporate into their own responsibilities, the following common goal and intents that reflect how the values of the river can be managed in a manner consistent with CHRS guidelines. The incorporation of these goals into everybody's responsibilities will enable all citizens to undertake their own activities in a manner that will cooperatively conserve the natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values of the Hayes. The management goal and intents that follow have been formulated in this context.

4.2 Management Goal

The goal of the Hayes River Management Plan is to complement and apply existing processes for cooperation and integrated resources management that will recognize, promote and sustain the natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values for which the Hayes River was nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

4.3 Management Intents

The natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values of the Hayes River must be conserved and the CHRS integrity guidelines for these values fulfilled. The following management intents address these requirements and establish a framework to assist in managing the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River. They are structured to reflect the thematic groupings of CHRS values and specific requirements of the CHRS guidelines. The relationship of these management intents to the different jurisdictional responsibilities and their respective authorities is illustrated in **Appendix A**.

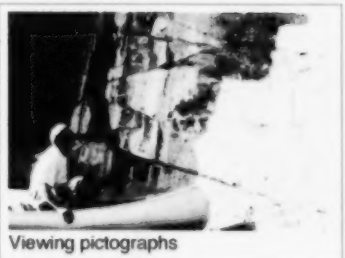
1. Water Flow and Water Quality

Water flows on the Hayes and Echimamish Rivers will remain unaltered by human caused activities and, in particular, impoundments and diversions.

The water quality throughout the entire Hayes River corridor will not be allowed to deteriorate from its current condition. Maintenance of water quality will be ensured through effective monitoring and management programs.

2. Public Understanding, Awareness and Interpretation

The stories of the Hayes River, its value and significance to Canada will be communicated and celebrated for the benefit of all Canadians. The interpretation of the Hayes will be in the proper context of the river's history, its current use, and the communities along the river. Interpretation will strive to set realistic and achievable expectations for users and citizens of the river. It will aim to develop an understanding and sense of responsibility within users and citizens to care for the river.


Viewing pictographs

3. Integrity of Natural Heritage Features and Processes

The natural values of the Hayes will be conserved through the avoidance, mitigation or reparation of impacts that could cause permanent or irreparable damage or threaten the persistence of that value. The conservation of the values must take into account the uniqueness and distribution of that value along the Hayes relative to its overall distribution. Site-specific features, such as waterfalls or caribou calving islands, will require greater conservation attention along the Hayes than regionally dispersed values, such as wildlife habitats and hydrological processes.

4. Integrity of Cultural Heritage Features

Artefacts at Trout Falls

The in-situ cultural values along the Hayes will be protected through the avoidance, mitigation and reparation of impacts that would cause permanent or irreparable damage. The setting, or the essential elements of the setting, that are critical to the understanding of the value will also be maintained, such as the setting around a pictograph. Where loss of a value due to natural causes is unavoidable, artefacts or values will be salvaged if possible and documented for the public record.

The non-in-situ cultural values, such as historical events, will be maintained, retold and communicated for their continued understanding and inheritance for future generations. Key representations of these values, such as the Hudson Bay Archives, will be maintained for their inheritance for future generations.

5. Public Enjoyment and Recreational Use

The recreational uses of the Hayes River that will be promoted and encouraged are those that draw value from it as a Canadian Heritage River. The elements of the river that contribute to its recreational use – its natural, cultural and scenic values – will be managed to ensure the continuation of those recreational experiences in the context of the Hayes as a working river and a travel route for local residents. The primary recreational experiences to be accommodated and promoted will be natural and cultural heritage appreciation, fishing and wilderness travel and boating. Promotion of these will incorporate appropriate social, environmental and safety contexts.

All recreational users will be encouraged to respect other users and the river itself. They will be expected to assume responsibility for their actions on the river and to exercise care of the river that befits the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River.

4.4 Management Actions

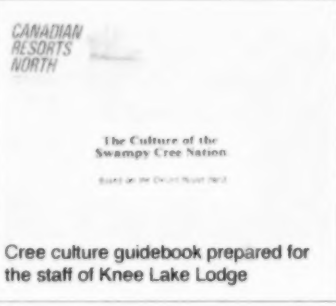
To achieve the management goal and to effectively accomplish the management intents, certain specific management actions are required. The actions can occur within the context of existing legislation, policies and management mechanisms.

Rapids along the Hayes River

1. Water Flow and Water Quality

- Manitoba, Canada and the First Nations will monitor activities along the Hayes, and where an activity may present a significant risk to water quality, cause to have an appropriate water quality monitoring program implemented.

- To minimize the risk of negative impacts on water quality, Manitoba will investigate the potential to designate portions of the Hayes and Echimamish Rivers as Water Quality Management Zones in accordance with the *Water Protection Act* (pending).



Cree culture guidebook prepared for the staff of Knee Lake Lodge

2. Public Understanding, Awareness and Interpretation

- Government management agencies, First Nations, private tourism enterprises and public stakeholders alike will be encouraged to prepare and deliver products, programs and facilities for the public to appreciate, use, and enjoy the Hayes River in ways that conserve its values.

- Manitoba will work with partners to produce and distribute a set of Hayes River CHRS media, such as a full colour poster, an edu-kit for use in schools, a river guide, and Hayes River CHRS education and training programs.

Natural values appreciation

3. Integrity of Natural Heritage Features and Processes

- Manitoba will endeavour to maintain a current and complete Geographic Information System (GIS) inventory and mapping of natural features and values. This inventory can be linked with field research and surveys such as wildlife counts and creel censuses. This database will enable informed and timely identification, consideration and monitoring of these values by resource managers.

Tidal flats along the lower Hayes River

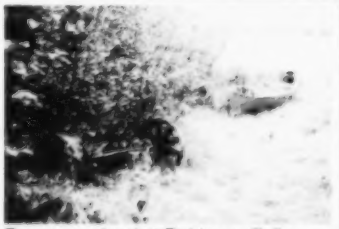
- A notation will be placed on the Crown Lands Registry to assist in the identification of lands contained within the river corridor for resource management purposes (see Section 4.5, Hayes River Corridor).

- Land use permit and work permit terms and conditions will reflect protection and conservation requirements for natural heritage features and values, and will incorporate best practices guidelines where available.

Polar bear

4. Integrity of Cultural Heritage Features

- Manitoba will endeavour to maintain a current and complete GIS inventory, mapping and description of impact sensitivity of particular cultural heritage features. This information base will enable informed and timely identification, consideration and monitoring of these values by resource managers. Information on certain of these features may not be made available to the public if there is a significant risk that increased access or visitation could pose a threat to the feature.


Tramway wheel at Robinson Falls

- Land use permit and work permit terms and conditions will reflect protection and conservation requirements for cultural heritage features and values, and will incorporate best practices guidelines where available.

5. Public Enjoyment and Recreational Use

Recreational canoeing

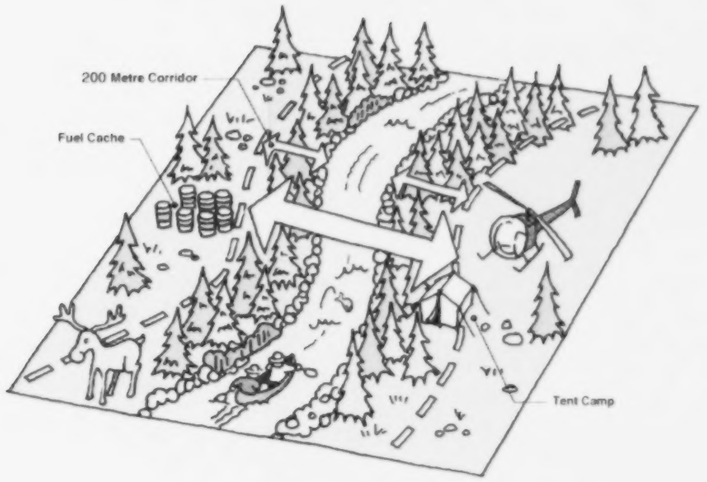
- Manitoba will endeavour to maintain a current and complete GIS inventory and mapping of campsites, recreational sites and recreational features, including notable scenic areas. Such a spatial and relational information base will enable informed and timely identification, consideration and monitoring of these sites by resource managers.

- Land use permit and work permit terms and conditions will reflect protection and conservation requirements for recreational sites and opportunities, and will incorporate best practices guidelines where available.

- Manitoba will continue to work with the tourism industry to encourage and promote tourism facilities, attractions and activities that are appropriate to the Hayes and its primary recreational opportunities.

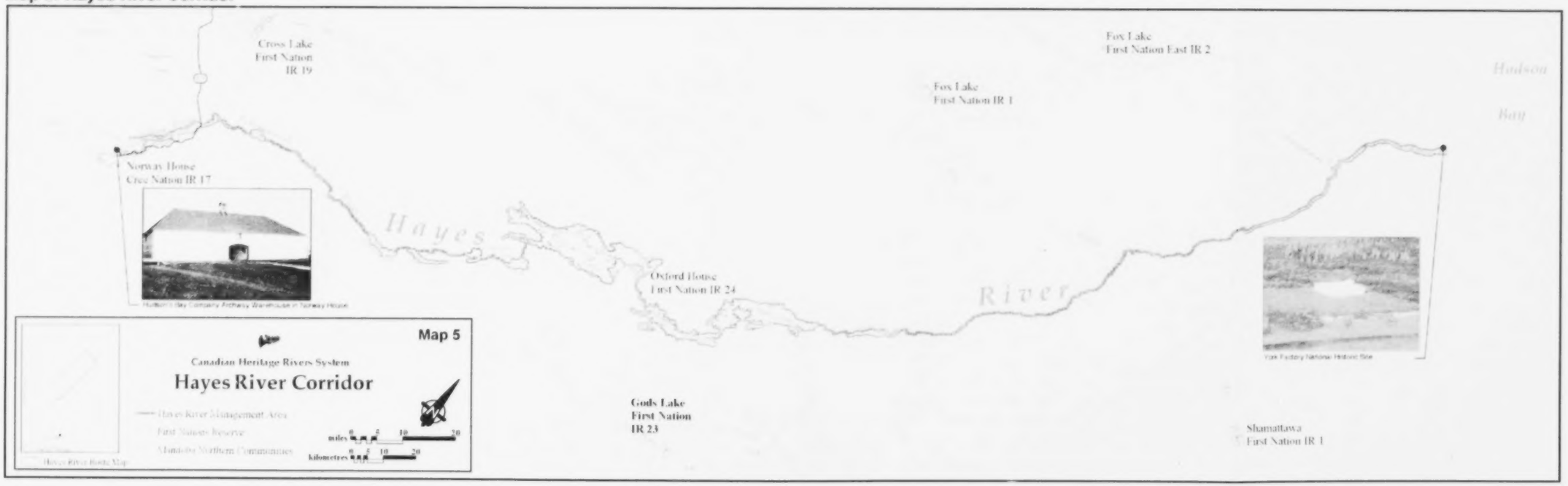
4.5 Hayes River Corridor

The CHRS Hayes River corridor is identified from the Archway Warehouse at Norway House to York Factory at Hudson Bay. This corridor has a width of 200 metres, identified from the Ordinary High Water Mark* along both shorelines of the Hayes River, the Echimamish River, and the Nelson River from the mouth of the Echimamish River to Norway House, including the lakes through which the river flows. This corridor width captures all or part of all of the site-specific in-situ values of the Hayes. It will serve as a basic point of reference in the future management of the river. The management intents and actions described in this plan will apply to, and be focussed on, this corridor. It is within this corridor that the implementation of the management intent and actions, by all cooperating management agencies, partners and stakeholders, will achieve the management goal for the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River.



* **Ordinary High Water Mark** is the limit or edge of the bed of a body of water, where the bed is that land which has been covered by water so long as to wrest it from vegetation, or to mark a distinct character upon the vegetation where it extends into the water or upon the soil itself (Natural Resources Canada, Surveyor General of Canada, 2004).

Map 5: Hayes River Corridor



5.0 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 A Cooperative and Coordinated Approach

Manitoba Conservation and Bunibonibee Cree Nation representatives at a community open house meeting in Oxford House, 2002

The designation of the Hayes River as a Canadian Heritage River will be a singularly important step in achieving public awareness and recognition of its heritage significance to all Canadians. Designation, together with the management intents and actions in this plan, can be expected to raise general public and stakeholder awareness and support for conserving the river's character and values.

The management goal, intents and actions set out in this plan require the cooperation and participation of federal and provincial management agencies, First Nations, the private sector and public stakeholders. Specific areas of responsibility and roles have been suggested. Relevant legislation and policy that can be used to fulfil these responsibilities and roles are described in **Appendix A**. Plan implementation is a shared responsibility of all parties, yet there remains the need for lead responsibility and accountability.

Consistent with its role as the Manitoba agency responsible for the Canadian Heritage River System, Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch, Manitoba Conservation will assume this lead role. Also within Manitoba Conservation, the North East Region Integrated Resource Management Team (IRMT) will serve as the lead for field level implementation of the plan and for conservation of the Hayes River's heritage and recreational values. The IRMT will use existing land use permit and work permit procedures, provisions and terms to account for the conservation of heritage river values in resource use and development activities. This plan, and the products and programs derived from it, will become valuable tools for the IRMT.

Wider interdepartmental referral and review mechanisms already operational in the Manitoba government will also contribute importantly to cooperative and coordinated consideration of Hayes River values in resource planning and development activities. Development proposals in the watershed, such as forestry roads, timber cut block planning and mineral exploration and development, will trigger the appropriate environmental assessment and review processes, depending on their scale and extent.

The Resource Management Boards at Norway House and York Factory will be important partners in the implementation of this plan, recognizing their roles in effecting integrated land use and resource management within the Resource Management Areas. This plan can be an effective tool to assist the Resource Management Boards as they examine the resources in the areas, monitor land use activities and communicate with citizens about the resources and values of the areas. The plan can serve as a valuable resource and context for the Resource Management Boards as they undertake land use planning. The boards may use this plan to assist in prescribing areas and activities, preserving areas of ecological, historical and cultural significance, and in helping to resolve land use conflicts. The incorporation of this plan into the work of Resource Management Boards will help ensure its implementation.

Norway House, Bunibonibee, Shamattawa and York Factory First Nations, and the Northern Affairs communities of Norway House and Oxford House – the people who live along the Hayes River route – will be most intimately involved in the future of the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River and in the implementation of this plan. It is also those along the river that should draw the greatest benefits from designation of the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River. These benefits might arise from the profile, awareness, conservation and economic development that CHRS designation might lever.

Implementation of portions of this plan can be achieved by First Nations through their activities and involvement in their traditional areas, and in some instances, through Band Council Resolutions on reserve lands. Activities might include some technical monitoring of values, but importantly people on the river to watch over and monitor what is happening. Expanding the knowledge and understanding of many of the values of the Hayes can potentially be achieved by those travelling and living along the river sharing their knowledge. Sharing knowledge across generations can also be important in sustaining the stories of the Hayes River.

Parks Canada Agency, being responsible for the National Historic Sites of Canada, has a notable role in the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River. York Factory and Norway House National Historic Sites of Canada (the latter being the Archway Warehouse owned by the North West Company) are important values of the Hayes and mark the limits of the corridor. Designation of these sites as National Historic Sites complements the designation of the Hayes as a Canadian Heritage River. Implementation of this plan at York Factory can be through its incorporation into the management plan for the National Historic Site.

To facilitate greater cooperation amongst all the parties associated with the Hayes River, certain implementation actions are required. These are intended to assist in the implementation of the management goal, intents and actions described in Section 4.

- Manitoba will work towards improving the operation of the review and referral system for development proposals between: Manitoba Conservation; Water Stewardship; Industry, Economic Development and Mines; and Culture, Heritage and Tourism.

- Manitoba will ensure that Bunibonibee and Shamattawa First Nations are involved in an appropriate review process when significant developments are proposed within their respective traditional areas along the Hayes River corridor.

- All First Nations along the Hayes will be encouraged to identify a councillor portfolio responsible for implementation of the Hayes River CHRS management plan.

- A Hayes River CHRS Committee will be established consisting of representatives from Manitoba, Parks Canada (York Factory National Historic Site) and the four First Nations along the Hayes. This committee would be convened as may be needed in the future to address major issues that might affect the designation of the Hayes, or to update or revise this plan.

5.2 Monitoring and Reporting

A Hayes River Annual Report Checklist is included as a part of this management plan (see **Appendix B**). Manitoba Conservation will use the checklist and annually report to the CHRS, identifying any significant impacts or changes to the integrity of Hayes River values. As well, Manitoba Conservation will annually report on the progress achieved for the specific management actions presented for the Hayes River and will work with CHRS program partners and cooperators to prepare these annual reports. The reporting can involve input from all interested parties who choose to participate.

Every 10 years, from the time of designation, Manitoba Conservation will prepare and submit to the CHRS a monitoring report that describes the status of the natural heritage, cultural heritage and recreational values for which the Hayes was nominated. These reports must assess the degree to which these values still exist, the degree to which this plan has been implemented, and whether the Hayes continues to merit designation as a Canadian Heritage River. The Hayes River CHRS Committee may elect to undertake a review and update of this plan in conjunction with preparation of a 10-year report.

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The Environment Act, S.M. (1987-88) c. 26 - Cap. E125.
The Fisheries Act, R.S.M. (1987) c. F90.
The Forest Act, R.S.M. (1987) c. F150.
The Heritage Resources Act, cc S.M. (1986) c. H39.1.
The Manitoba Water Protection Act (pending)
The Mines and Minerals Act, S.M. (1991-92) c. 9 - Cap. M162.
The Municipal Act, cc S.M. (1996) c. M225.
The Northern Affairs Act, cc S.M. (1988) c. N100.
The Planning Act, R.S.M. (1987) c. P80.
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Appendix A: Management Roles and Participants

Appendix A: Management Roles and Participants

MANAGEMENT INTENTS FOR HERITAGE RIVER VALUES	RESPONSIBILITY	LEGISLATION, POLICIES AND PRACTICES	OPERATIONAL LEVEL
Water Flow and Water Quality	Province of Manitoba	Manitoba Environment Act, Manitoba Water Rights Act, Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines, Manitoba Water Quality Standards, Objectives & Guidelines, Manitoba Water Strategy, Manitoba Water Protection Act (pending)	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Department Level District Offices, and Regional Integrated Resource Management Team (IRMT)
	Government of Canada	Canadian Environment Assessment Act, Navigable Waters Protection Act, Canada Fisheries Act	Environment Canada - Department Level; Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Ottawa, Winnipeg
	First Nations	Northern Flood Agreement, Indian Act, Constitution Act, Band Council Resolutions	Resource Management Boards, Band Councils
	Northern Affairs Communities	Northern Affairs Act, Municipal Act	Community Council, Resource Management Board
	Public Stakeholders	Advocacy, Membership Awareness and Education, Responsible Field Practices	Mining Associations, Manitoba Trapping Association (MTA), Manitoba Lodge and Outfitters Association (MLOA), Manitoba Naturalists Society (MNS), Paddle Manitoba (PM), Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
Public Understanding, Awareness and Interpretation	Province of Manitoba	Archives of Manitoba Act, Manitoba Heritage Resources Act, Crown Lands Act, Archives of Manitoba Act	Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources and Archives of Manitoba; Manitoba Conservation - Department, IRMT - District Levels
	Government of Canada	Historic Sites and Monuments Act; Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies, York Factory National Historic Site Management Plan (pending)	Parks Canada Agency - Winnipeg, Churchill
	First Nations	Partnership and Cooperating Activities with Other Governments and Programs, Band Council Resolutions	Resource Management Boards, Band Councils
	Northern Affairs Communities	Northern Affairs Act, Municipal Act	Community Council, Resource Management Board
	Public Stakeholders	Advocacy, Field Trips, Lectures, Publications	Mining Associations, MTA, MLOA, MNS, PM, CPAWS, North West Company
Integrity of Natural Heritage Features and Processes **Integrity of Cultural Heritage Features**	Province of Manitoba	Archives of Manitoba Act, Crown Lands Act, Mines and Minerals Act, Heritage Resources Act, Fisheries Act, Wildlife Act, Forest Act, Water Rights Act, Manitoba Stream Crossing Guidelines, Manitoba Water Strategy, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Act, Northern Flood Agreement	Manitoba Conservation - Lands Branch & IRMT and District Offices; Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources and Archives of Manitoba; Manitoba Industry, Economic Development and Mines - Department Level
	Government of Canada	Canada Fisheries Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Species at Risk Act, York Factory National Historic Site Management Plan (pending), Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies	Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Ottawa, Winnipeg, Environment Canada, Parks Canada Agency
	First Nations	Constitution Act, Indian Act, Northern Flood Agreement, Band Council Resolutions	Resource Management Boards, Band Councils
	Northern Affairs Communities	Northern Affairs Act, Municipal Act	Community Council, Resource Management Board
	Public Stakeholders	Advocacy, Responsible Field Practices, Habitat/Environmental Policies of NGOs	Mining Associations, MTA, MLOA, MNS, PM, CPAWS, North West Company
Public Enjoyment and Recreational Use	Province of Manitoba	Manitoba Heritage Resources Act, Crown Lands Act, Fisheries Act, Wildlife Act	Manitoba Conservation - Department Level District Office; Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism - Historic Resources and Archives of Manitoba;
	Government of Canada	Historic Sites and Monuments Act, Navigable Waters Protection Act, York Factory National Historic Site Management Plan (pending), Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies	Parks Canada Agency - Winnipeg, Churchill; Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Winnipeg
	First Nations	Partnership and Cooperating Activities with Other Governments and Programs, Band Council Resolutions	Resource Management Boards, Band Councils
	Northern Affairs Communities	Northern Affairs Act, Municipal Act	Community Council, Resource Management Board
	Public Stakeholders	Low Trace Camping/Pack in - Pack out/Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Activities on River	Public at large, Tourist Enterprises, MLOA, MNS, PM

Note: Legislation is dynamic and will change over time. The legislation identified in this table includes the major statutes that can be expected to apply to the Hayes River, circa 2005. As well, it is stressed that the public stakeholders listed are ones that have a known interest in heritage rivers but the list is not intended to be exclusionary.

Appendix B: The Hayes River Canadian Heritage River Annual Report Checklist

The Hayes River
Canadian Heritage River
Annual Report Checklist

1. Changes in Condition of River Values

Natural Heritage Values:

Flora
Fauna
Habitat alteration
Physiographic features
Other natural features

Human Heritage Values:

Historic sites
Prehistoric sites
Archaeological sites
Commemorative sites

Recreational Values:

Water-based activities
Land-based activities

Resource Integrity:

Water quality for recreation
Water quality for aquatic life
Water flows

2. Implementation of the Management Plan Actions

Water quality monitoring
Water quality management zones
Public awareness products, programs and facilities
Inventory of natural, cultural and recreational sites and values
Crown Land Registry notation
Land use and work permit conditions
Promotion of recreation facilities, attractions and activities
Government review processes
First Nation review processes
First Nation councillor portfolio
Hayes River CHRS Committee